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Expedited Procedure
Group No. 1764

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): NINOMIYA, et al.
Serial No.: 09/918,648
Filed: August 1, 2001
For: PROCESS FOR RECOVERING DITRIMETHYLOLPROPANE
Group: 1764
Examiner: Virginia Manoharan

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Attn: Box AF

May 5, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 3, 2003, please the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 22, 24 and 28 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend the claims remaining in the application as follows:

19. (Amended) A process for recovering ditrimethylolpropane by-produced when producing trimethylolpropane by reacting n-butyraldehyde with formaldehyde in the presence of a basic catalyst, and then separating trimethylolpropane by extraction and distillation, with ditrimethylolpropane being recovered from a still residue of said distillation, said process for recovering ditrimethylolpropane